

Cambridgeport, April 11, 1842.

My dear George:

I avail myself of the opportunity, by Mr. Sils-
way, who intends leaving in the morning for Northampton, to
send you a few hasty lines; hoping that you will allow us
to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Your cousin Thumber has called repeatedly to in-
quire, whether I had received any intelligence from you, rela-
tive to his going to N.; and great has been his perplexity of
mind, in consequence of your silence. After you wrote to
have him come up, he was willing to do so, without any de-
lay, provided he could obtain a loan to settle various petty
debts, and to enable him to get to N. with his family, and
such furniture as would be both convenient and necessary
for them to have on their arrival. This would require about
thirty dollars. Unless such an arrangement could be made,
he did not feel as if he could consent to leave Boston, in
debt. I gave him encouragement to believe, (from what passed
between us in regard to his pecuniary situation when you
were ^{here}), that you would be able to make the necessary ar-
rangement, though I told him how sorely you and your as-
sociates were tried, at the present time, for funds. I wrote
to you immediately by mail, respecting the predicament in
which he was placed, but have received no tidings from
you; which has led me to suppose that you have been
absent from home, or too unwell to write. Since he
made up his mind to be with you, he has had, and

refused, two good offers of employment during the spring and summer; and it will, therefore, be a severe disappointment to him, in case he fails of going to N. What makes it more perplexing to him is, he has been compelled to break up house-keeping, as the house that he occupied has been let to another person; and, of course, he does not wish to hire another dwelling, while this negotiation is pending. His wife is at present with her sister in East Boston; and as he dare not seek permanent employment, he is now doing little or nothing from day to day. The owner of the house which he formerly occupied, he says, has offered to loan him the thirty dollars, if he will let him have his furniture as security; the said furniture to be forfeited, if the money be not returned within two months. But Thumber is apprehensive that the man is not trustworthy, and that, if he should take the loan, he shall be put to much trouble and difficulty in getting back his furniture, which, of course, is worth a great deal more than that amount, and which he does not wish to sacrifice at auction. He therefore still waits to hear from you, with much anxiety. If I had the money, I would loan it to him at once; but it happens that I am peculiarly straitened at this moment, especially in consequence of having accommodated two friends (before I knew how it would be with Thumber,) to the amount of fifty-five dollars, who will not be able to repay me for at least a month to come. The loan that he needs is not large in itself; and yet it is large in a case where funds are so important in the commencement of an enterprise like yours at N. If you cannot let him have it now, it will greatly relieve his mind to hear from you.

I have been thinking of attending a meeting at Albany, on the 20th and 21st inst.; but, in the last Liberator, (as you probably saw,) I intimated that I should not go, as I presumed from the call it was to be a Liberty Party Convention. Within a day or two, however, I have received a letter from the Editor of the Albany Times, in which he says I have misapprehended the grand object of the meeting, which is, to organize an "Eastern N. Y. Anti-Slavery Society," on the old organization basis, so far at least as the equal rights of men and women are concerned. With this explanation and assurance, I have concluded to change my mind, and to go to Albany next week. Whether Remond will be able to accompany me, or not, I do not yet know. I shall calculate to visit you on my return, so as to be with you a week from next Saturday, and remain until Monday.

Should any thing occur to break this arrangement, you shall be apprised of it without delay. Should I visit N., I should not object to having a meeting on Saturday, and also on Sunday evening, if it should be deemed best. But you had better wait until you hear from me again.

I have not been well for a fortnight past. My old scrupulous complaint in the head has returned, and raged with great violence, causing me much suffering, and making mental effort extremely irksome. Willie is quite sick with a fever - probably the scarlet fever, though of this I am not yet certain. I have given him three moderate courses, - not without benefit, - but he is still a sick child. Should he continue to linger, I think of consulting Dr. Wright. Bro. James is about as usual - sometimes quite feeble, and soon cheerful and active.

The mission of bro. H. C. Wright, I fear, will
fail for the want of funds.

Love to your wife, and a kiss for each of the
children.

Your loving brother,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

George W. Benson,

Northampton,

Mass.